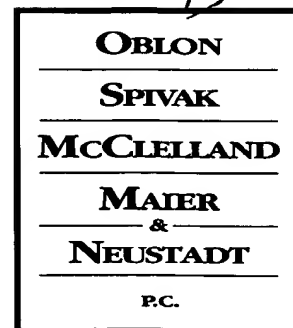




Docket No.: 209650US0DIV

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/884,948 ✓
Applicants: Keiichi YOKOYAMA, et al.
Filing Date: June 21, 2001
For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING MICROBIAL
TRANSGLUTAMINASE
Group Art Unit: 1653
Examiner: Bugaisky, G. E.
Allowed: April 7, 2004

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance
Copy of Date-stamped Filing Receipt dated June 21, 2001
Copy of Information Disclosure Statement filed June 21, 2001
Copy of Form PTO 1449 filed June 21, 2001

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon

Vincent K. Shier, Ph.D.

Registration No. 50,552

Customer Number

22850

(703) 413-3000 (phone)
(703) 413-2220 (fax)

DOCKET NO: 209650US0DIV



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
KEIICHI YOKOYAMA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: BUGAISKY, G.E.
SERIAL NO: 09/884,948 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1653
FILED: JUNE 21, 2001 : ALLOWED: APRIL 7, 2004
FOR: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING MICROBIAL TRANSGLUTAMINASE:

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Responsive to the Notice of Allowance dated April 7, 2004, Applicants request that the Examiner provide acknowledgment that the references cited on the Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 21, 2001, have been considered. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge consideration of same by providing Applicants with an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 enclosed herewith listing these references. Accordingly, Applicants submit herewith a copy of the Information Disclosure Statement as filed on June 21, 2001, along with a copy of the date-stamped filing receipt evidencing the timely filing thereof.

Applicants submit that the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 were mentioned in the parent application U.S. 09/448,310, filed on November 24, 1999. Therefore, copies of the cited references may be obtained from the U.S. 09/448,310. In the event that the Examiner is unable to obtain these references, it is requested that the undersigned be contacted as soon as possible to avoid any further, unnecessary delay in examination.

An early and favorable indication that the Information Disclosure Statement has been considered is kindly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon



Vincent K. Shier, Ph.D.
Registration No.: 50,552

Customer Number

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Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 08/03)
NFO:VKS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Keiichi YOKOYAMA et al
SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. APPLICATION
FILED: HEREWITH
FOR: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING MICROBIAL TRANSGLUTAMINASE



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE/RELATED CASE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

- ☒ The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 were mentioned in parent application 09/448,310 filed November 24, 1999.
- ☐ A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- ☐ Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- ☐ A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

- ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- ☒ Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLOM, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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Form PTO 1449
(Modified)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY DOCKET NO.
209650US0DIVSERIAL NO.
New Application

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT

Keiichi YOKOYAMA et al.

FILING DATE

Herewith

GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	TRAN	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,736,356	04/07/98	Sano et al.			
	AB	5,156,956	10/20/92	Motoki et al.			
	AC	5,514,573	05/07/96	Yasueda et al.			
	AD	5,731,183	03/24/98	Kobayashi et al.			
	AE	6,013,498	1/2000	Yokoyama et al			
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES	NO
	AO	0 481 504	04/22/92	EUROPE		
	AP	64-27471	01/30/89	JAPAN (English Abstract provided)		X
	AQ	1-50382	10/30/89	JAPAN (English Abstract provided)		X
	AR	5-199883	08/10/93	JAPAN (English Abstract provided)		X
	AS	6-30771	02/08/94	JAPAN (English Abstract provided)		X
	AT	WO 96/22366	07/25/96	WIPO		
	AU	WO 96/06931	03/07/96	WIPO		
	AV					

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AW	Shino Takehana et al., "CHEMICAL SYNTHESIS OF THE GENE FOR MICROBIAL TRANSGLUTAMINASE FROM <i>STREPTOVERTICILLIUM</i> AND ITS EXPRESSION IN <i>ESCHERICHIA COLI</i> ", Biosci. Biotech. Biochem., Vol. 58, No. 1, pp. 88-92, 1994.
	AX	Misako KAWAI et al., "HIGH-LEVEL EXPRESSION OF THE CHEMICALLY SYNTHESIZED GENE FOR MICROBIAL TRANSGLUTAMINASE FROM <i>STREPTOVERTICILLIUM</i> IN <i>Escherichia coli</i> ", Biosci. Biotech. Biochem., Vol. 61, No. 5, pp. 830-835, May 1997.
	AY	Arie Ben-Bassat et al., "PROCESSING OF THE INITIATION METHIONINE FROM PROTEINS: PROPERTIES OF THE <i>ESCHERICHIA COLI</i> METHIONINE AMINOPEPTIDASE AND ITS GENE STRUCTURE", Journal of Bacteriology, Vol. 169, No. 2, pp. 751-757, 1987.
	AZ	Roohaida Othman et al., "HUMAN NON-PANCREATIC (GROUP II) SECRETED PHOSPHOLIPASE A ₂ EXPRESSED FROM A SYNTHETIC GENE IN <i>ESCHERICHIA COLI</i> : CHARACTERISATION OF N-TERMINAL MUTANTS", Biochem. Biophys. Acta, Vol. 1303, No. 2, pp. 92-102, 1996.

Examiner

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Form PTO 1449
(Modified)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY DOCKET NO.
209650USODIVSERIAL NO.
New Application

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT

Keiichi YOKOYAMA et al.

FILING DATE

Herewith

GROUP

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

AAA	Koji Ikura et al., "AMINO ACID SEQUENCE OF GUINEA PIG LIVER TRANSGLUTAMINASE FORM ITS cDNA SEQUENCE", Biochemistry, Vol 27, pp. 2898-2905, 1988.
AAB	M. A. Phillips et al., "PRIMARY STRUCTURE OF KERATINOCYTE TRANSGLUTAMINASE", Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci, USA, Vo. 87, pp. 9333-9337, December 1990.
AAC	Akitada Ichinose et al, "AMINO ACID SEQUENCE OF THE A SUBUNIT OF HUMAN FACTOR XIII", Biochemistry, Vol. 25, pp. 6900-6906, 1986.
AAD	A. Ben-Bassat et al., "AMINO-TERMINAL PROCESSING OF PROTEINS", Nature, Vo. 326, p. 315, March 19, 1987.
AAE	
AAF	
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AAP	
AAQ	

Examiner

Date Considered

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